



PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 2002P11311WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/DE2003/002750	International filing date (day/month/year) 18 August 2003 (18.08.2003)	Priority date (day/month/year) 06 September 2002 (06.09.2002)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC B41J 15/04		
Applicant SIEMENS AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT		

<p>1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>5</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).</p> <p>These annexes consist of a total of _____ sheets.</p> <p>3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the report II <input type="checkbox"/> Priority III <input type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability IV <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement VI <input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited VII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application VIII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application
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Date of submission of the demand 04 March 2004 (04.03.2004)	Date of completion of this report 18 June 2004 (18.06.2004)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/DE2003/002750

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

the international application as originally filed

the description:

pages _____ 1-3 _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

the claims:

pages _____ 1-9 _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, as amended (together with any statement under Article 19
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

the drawings:

pages _____ 1/1 _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

the sequence listing part of the description:

pages _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language _____ which is:

the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
 the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
 the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

contained in the international application in written form.
 filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
 furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
 furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
 The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
 The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

the description, pages _____
 the claims, Nos. _____
 the drawings, sheets/fig _____

5. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rule 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

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International application No.
PCT/DE 03/02750

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-9	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-9	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-9	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

The German term "Scharnier" (hinge) in claim 1 is construed as meaning "Drehgelenk" (revolute joint) (see the Wahrig German Dictionary). In practice, this means that a cylindrical surface must exist along which the relative rotary movement takes place. The corresponding spatial delimitation or limitation of the term "Scharnier" in claim 1 cannot be less than this cylindrical surface. A spatial delimitation of this kind would also be supported by the drawing of the embodiment of the application.

Prior art:

GB-A-1 578 694 discloses a paper input flap 12 which is mounted on the axle 19 of the printing support. The paper is guided past the upper side of the printing support.

JP-A-08 324 056 discloses the output of printing paper at the end of a printer housing flap (13 in the figures, 12 in the English abstract), the housing flap 13 being mounted with a hinge 14 so as to rotate about an axle 14. The paper is guided out of the printer below the hinge 14 between the housing flap 13 and the housing 11.

US-A-5 388 923: Drawings 1 and 5 give no indication of the hinge which connects the housing flap 7 to the housing 1. In figures 2 to 4, the hinge appears to be in the form of a

plastic bridge. The housing flap 7 has a slot 8 through which the paper is guided out of the printer.

JP-A-10 138 589 discloses a housing flap 32 which rotates about an axle 124. The paper roll is mounted on the housing flap, the axis of rotation of the paper roll coinciding with the axle 124. The paper is guided out of the printer through an opening 98 on the upper side of the housing flap.

US-A-5 931 407 discloses the output of printing paper at the end of a printer housing flap 3, the housing flap 3 being mounted with a hinge 5 so as to rotate about an axle 5. The paper is guided out of the printer above the hinge 5 between the housing flap 3 and the housing 4.

Problem: To allow the housing flap to open during printing without a costly mechanism having to compensate the length of the paper path.

Solution: At least one central part (5) of the hinge (3) has a printing paper opening (6) having at least a width (B).

The available prior art does not disclose this problem or any hint of a solution of this nature.

The subject matter of independent claim 1 therefore meets the criteria in PCT Article 33(2) to (4).

Dependent claims 2-9 define developments of the invention and are therefore supported by the inventive concept of independent claim 1. Dependent claims 2-9 therefore also comply with the requirements of PCT Article 33(2) to (4).